

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/804,653

Examiner

Hanh B. Thai

Applicant(s)

BORCHERS, GREGORY EUGENE

Art Unit

2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 11/21/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17 and renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.


4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/16/08.
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


WILSON LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to amendment filed on November 21, 2007. Claims 1-17 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments regarding "automatically analyzing the MFP database and the driver database by the printer administration utility to determine allowable MFP/printer driver combinations" of claims 1-17 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the claims has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-17 are allowed over the art of records.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 1, 12, 16 and 17, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed provision "automatically analyzing the MFP database and the driver database by the printer administration utility to determine allowable MFP/printer driver combinations and automatically building a relationship database by the printer administration utility wherein an allowable MFP/printer driver combination is a printer driver and at least one compatible MFP" as claimed in conjunction with remaining claims provisions.

4. The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.
5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Other Prior Art Made of Record

6. 1. Wang et al. (US 2005/0068558 A1) disclose method and system to automatically update in real-time printer driver configuration.
2. Gase et al. (US 5,580, 177) disclose printer/client network with centrally updated printer drivers and printer status monitoring.
3. Ferlitsch (US 7,304,758 B2) discloses dynamically updating a printer driver.
4. Rajarajan et al. (US 7,308,440 B2) disclose system and method for representing an object used in management of multiple network resources.
5. Orleth et al. (US 2004/0215754 A1) disclose peripheral device driver maintenance scheme for networked peripheral device clients.
6. Mitani (US 2006/0072140 A1) discloses system and method for configuring printer driver settings.
7. Lay (US 2003/0234950 A1) discloses notification and adjustment of non-matching printers and printer drivers.
8. Aiba et al. (US 2003/0065773 A1) disclose device driver updating method and program, information processing apparatus and server apparatus using the same, and storage for storing device driver updating program.
9. Lozano et al. (US 7,168,003 B2) disclose method and apparatus for automating printer and printer driver diagnostics and repair.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Point of Contact


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B. Thai whose telephone number is 571-272-4029. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur (7:00AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hanh B Thai
Examiner
Art Unit 2163

February 1, 2008


WILSON LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER